



-- US Patent No. 5,588,948, to Takahashi et al., is directed to a stereoscopic endoscope.

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The stereo effect is produced by having a dividing pupil shutter, which splits the optical path onto the left and right sides, and the up and down sides. These sides are alternately projected on a proximal image pick up device, using time multiplexing. According to another aspect of this reference a distal CCD is included, which is divided to left and right sides with a shading member separating them, for achieving space multiplexing.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

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8. (Amended) The stereoscopic device according to claim 1, wherein said controllable multi wavelength illumination unit produces at least two alternating beams of light, each said beams of light characterized as being in a different range of wavelengths.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace page 2, figure 2, and page 17, figures 20A and 20B. Attached are copies of the new drawings with the marked amendments to show the changes made. Also attached are a copy of the old drawings and a clean copy of the new drawings.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to correct minor errors detected. Applicants assert that no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.